

Policy Update

After re-examining the policy, the Department of Health Services has determined that Local Education Agencies can bill each component/test within an assessment separately.

LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option Will Add Credentialed Service Providers!

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved California's State Plan Amendment (SPA) 98-002. SPA 98-002 adds:

- Credentialed language, speech and hearing specialists as providers of treatment services, to be provided under the supervision of a licensed speech pathologist or licensed audiologist.
- Credentialed school psychologists, credentialed school social workers and credentialed pupil service workers as providers of treatment services to the extent authorized under state law.
- Community college districts, California State Universities, and Universities of California as providers under the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option.
- Physician services to be provided to Medi-Cal eligible students under the LEA Medi-Cal Billing Option.

LEA providers discontinue claiming services pursuant to an Individual Health and Support Plan (IHSP)

DHS has discontinued reimbursement for IHSP-linked services effective July 1, 2001. The action is in response to the decision by CMS to stop paying IHSP claims. CMS has determined that IHSP services are not covered by the federal Medicaid program and cannot be claimed for reimbursement.

LEA Updates

- Physical therapists and occupational therapists can perform developmental assessments. The updates are reflected in the LEA provider manual on page loc edu 17.
- Group therapy can be reimbursed for speech therapy and audiology, the initial service unit is 15-45 continuous minutes. Group therapy can also be reimbursed for counseling, the initial service unit is 90 continuous minutes. The updates are reflected in the LEA provider manual on pages loc edu 20 and loc edu cd 2.